



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

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Weston Facility Reopened by Forest Service

(DOUGLAS, WY. - October 26, 2011) – Joint efforts by crews from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Campbell County has resulted in the installation of a new restroom facility on the east side of the Weston Hills Recreation Area. The previous concrete outhouse was destroyed by vandals in the summer of 2009.

After a lengthy, two-year process, which included a brief closure of the area and a legal investigation, the installation of the new toilet signifies a successful collaborative effort to promote responsible public use of the area.

While the USFS funded the new facility and oversaw the project, Campbell County road and bridge crews were responsible for disposal of the old outhouse remains, as well as excavation for the new unit.

The area surrounding the facility location features public lands managed by both the USFS and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). It is a heavily-used recreation destination that can be enjoyed year round. ATV trails abound in the area and the large tracts of public land provide ample hunting access.

Weston Hills Recreation Area consists of approximately 9,000 acres of BLM-administered lands adjoining the Thunder Basin National Grassland. The area is located 25 miles northeast of Gillette, Wyo. and is accessible via State Highway 59 North.

The outhouse, located a mile and half west of Highway 59 and just off Forest Road 1246, has had a history of vandalism. In hopes of deterring the recurring vandalism, the Douglas Ranger District has stepped up their law enforcement and public education efforts.

“This area is highly used by the general public and it is our intent to provide facilities that will make the area more enjoyable for all users,” Douglas District Ranger Bob Sprentall said. “Multiple partners have assisted us in this process and I would like to thank them. I would also like to encourage the public to help report abuse in this area, so that it can be enjoyed in the future.”

For additional information please contact the Douglas Ranger District at 307-358-4690 or visit <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>.

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